

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 8539

USIA FOR MOCERI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETEL, US, UR

SUBJECT: INTERFERENCE TO VOA 1197 KHZ

REF: MOSCOW 16203

1. AFTER MANY FRUITLESS EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE BETTER POSITION FOR VOA 1197 KHZ, KUPPER, HEAD OF FRG DELEGATION, ASKED US TEAM TO INTERVENE WITH SOVIETS.

2. HUFFCUTT AND JACOBS MET WITH CHAMCHIN, HEAD OF SOVDEL, ON MONDAY NOVEMBER 10. WE REVIEWED PAST HISTORY OF US PROTESTS POINTING OUT THAT THEY PREDATED CONFERENCE. ALSO REMINDED CHAMCHIN OF PREVIOUS SOVIET OFFER TO REDUCE POWER OF MINSK STATION TO 25 KW. HE CLAIMED HIS CALCULATIONS SHOWED THAT MUNICH STATION WAS RECEIVING CONFERENCE STANDARD OF 27 DB PROTECTION RATIO AT POLISH-SOVIET BORDER. WE RESPONDED BY SHOWING THAT INTERFERENCE FROM SOV STATIONS WERE AT LEVEL 10 DB GREATER THAN NOMINAL FIELD FOR MUNICH ESTABLISHED AT FIRST SESSION OF CONFERENCE. HE OFFERED TO REMOVE FROM 1197 KHZ SIX STATION NETWORK OF 5KW TRANSMITTERS AT GOMEL, GRODNO, PINSK, MOGHILEV, MIADDEL AND BREST, OR MOVE USE OF 1197 KHZ TO TOWNS FURTHER TO THE EAST WHERE THEY WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH MUNICH.

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WE POINTED OUT THAT REMAINING REQUIREMENT FOR A 50 KW

STATION AT MINSK WOULD STILL CREATE HIGHER LEVEL OF INTERFERENCE THAN WE ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT. CHAMCHIN REPLIED THAT HE WILL GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO REDUCING REQUIREMENT TO 25 KW, BUT THAT HE COULD NOT LET US KNOW UNTIL LATER IN THE CONFERENCE SINCE IT WOULD DEPEND ON HOW THE SOVIET UNION COMES OUT OVERALL. HE MENTIONED THAT IN HIS OPINION CONFERENCE NOT GOING WELL FOR EUROPE, AND ESPECIALLY FOR SOV STATIONS, ALTHOUGH THEY HAD MADE SOME SUCCESSFUL HEADWAY WITH CHINESE, BUT IT TOOK FIVE WEEKS TO ACCOMPLISH. MEETING WAS CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY. FRG DEL HAS BEEN INFORMED OF RESULTS.

3. IF POWER AT MINSK NOT REDUCED AT CONFERENCE, USG WILL HAVE TO PRESS DIPLOMATICALLY FOR REDUCTION PREVIOUSLY OFFERED BY SOVIETS.

4. REQUIREMENT FOR 15 KW STATION IN ROMANIA IS NEXT HIGHEST SOURCE OF INTERFERENCE TO VOA-MUNICH. WE PLAN TO DISCUSS WITH FRG DEL TODAY AND REQUEST THEY APPROACH ROMANIANS FOR REDUCTION IN POWER ON ORDER OF 10 DB. CONSIDERING SOV DEL OFFER, AND POSSIBILITY OF REDUCTION IN POWER AT MINSK TO 25 KW, AND IF A REDUCTION IN POWER OF ROMANIAN STATION CAN BE ACHIEVED, 1197 KHZ MUNICH COULD EMERGE AS CLEAREST CHANNEL IN EUROPEAN AREA AND THIS SURELY NOTICED BY FRG. ALTHOUGH FRG DEL HAS NOT AGAIN RAISED SUBJECT, OUR CONCERN EXPRESSED IN REFTEL IS HEIGHTENED SINCE AS OF TODAY SATISFACTORY REPLACEMENT FREQUENCY NOT YET FOUND FOR BAVARIAN RADIO.DALE

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